

FUNDING FOR K-12 CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

ISSUE: State Funding for High School CTE Expires on June 30, 2018

State funding for the Career and Technical Education Incentive Grant program (CTEIG) is set to expire on June 30th. Hundreds of CTE programs across the state rely upon this important revenue stream for continued operations. The Legislature and Governor must re-authorize this program in the FY 2018-19 budget in order to provide continued support to CTE in grades K-12.

BACKGROUND

High quality CTE prepares students for the challenging careers of the 21st century and gives them cutting-edge knowledge about career options, technology, and skills required for success in adult life. Importantly, CTE also provides alternative academic pathways and choices for students who may not be interested in “college-only” coursework. As such, the CTEIG was created in 2015 as a state education, economic, and workforce development initiative with the goal of providing K-12 pupils with the knowledge and skills necessary to transition to employment and postsecondary education. The purpose of the CTEIG is to encourage the development of new career technical education (CTE) programs and enhance and maintain current CTE programs during implementation of the school district and charter school local control funding formula (LCFF).

The policy rationale for the CTEIG program is the understanding that unless a high school course is required, funded or measured by the state it will very likely be eliminated by competing budget priorities. Accordingly, the focus of the \$900M CTEIG grant program for FY 2015-16, FY 2016-17, and FY 2017-18 was to specifically “fund” the delivery and sustainability of high-quality K-12 CTE programs. These funds are now set to expire on June 30, 2018.

KEY POINTS

- CTE is **NOT required** for high school graduation, college admissions, or any other state law.
- CTE is **NOT funded** after June 30, 2018.
- CTE is **NOT measured** for school accountability purposes.
- CTE needs **specific state funding** to survive as a curriculum option for students in our high schools.

BILL:

AB 1743 (O'Donnell, Burke, Chávez, Cunningham, McCarty, Quirk-Silva, and Thurmond) would specify that, upon appropriation by the Legislature, \$500,000,000 shall be made available to the CTEIG program for the 2018–19, 2019–20, and 2020–21 fiscal years.

POSITION: SUPPORT

ABOUT CAL SMACNA

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